

In reply refer to
CUR:DNA

February 19 1954

SECRET

My dear Mr. Dulles:

It has come to the attention of the Department of State, in connection with the inter-agency study of certain Antarctic problems, that the facilities of the Central Intelligence Agency might be available for the preparation of certain Antarctic maps.

It will be recalled that two inter-agency bodies were organized last year--the Ad hoc Committee on Antarctica, for the consideration of policy questions, and the Technical Group on Antarctica, for the study of past United States activities in the region. As indicated in the summaries of the seventh and eighth meetings of the Ad hoc Committee (October 1953), it and the Technical Group were agreed upon the importance of the production of maps from the data obtained by United States expeditions in the Antarctic. The production of a comprehensive map of the Antarctic, using data obtained by our post-war expeditions, is not considered possible for technical reasons. However, it is understood that useful maps of certain areas might be produced, based on information already available but never yet published in map form.

It is the opinion of this Department that the publication of any such maps would be beneficial in preserving United States rights in the Antarctic.

Yours, in

The Honorable
Allen D. Dulles,
Director of Central
Intelligence.

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If, in addition, a decision is made in the near future to announce an official United States claim in the Antarctic, the appearance of a new American map of the area would lend timely support to our action.

If your Agency is able to undertake a project of this kind, I suggest that the work be begun as soon as possible, in coordination with the other activities of the two inter-agency committees mentioned above.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Murphy
Deputy Under Secretary

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